

Poletown Historic District
Joseph F. Majeske School
2139 Trombly Avenue
Detroit
Wayne
MI

HABS No. MI-275-8

HABS
MICH
80 DETRO
34-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON DC, 20240

STATE Michigan	COUNTY Wayne	TOWN OR VICINITY Detroit
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Poletown Historic District Joseph F. Majeske School (Detroit Board of Education)		HABS NO. MI-275-8 XXXX
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE None.		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 2139 Trombly Avenue, Detroit, Michigan		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1913 (Detroit Board of Education)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Majeske School is primarily of historical significance. The building was originally opened as an apprenticeship training school. Later, in the early 1920's, an elementary school program was added. Soon afterwards, the building was converted into an open-air school for the prevention of tuberculosis. (Continued on Page 2)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Neo-Classical		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Masonry bearing wall construction.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTED) Refer to attached floor plans.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The pilastered entrance, Spanish tile roof, and string-courses are significant exterior features.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) The interior is not distinctive.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Classroom additions were made in the years 1921 and 1957. Shop additions were made in the years 1923 to 1963.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Although the building is now vacant, it remains in a functional condition. It is scheduled for demolition in 1981.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Theron Francis, William Kessler and Associates, Inc.		DATE July 20, 1981

POLETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT (Joseph F.
Majeske School)
HABS No. MI-275-8

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

The building is historically significant for its long service to the local industrial community. It is noteworthy that the apprenticeship training program was run in cooperation with several unions in the area.

POLETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT (Joseph F.
Majeske School)
HABS No. MI-275-8

HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE: Joseph F. Majeske School

SOURCE OF INFORMATION:

I. Manuscripts and Documents

1. Environmental Impact Statement Central Industrial Park City of Detroit
Community and Economic Department. Detroit: December, 1980.

II. Reference Material

1. "Histories of the Elementary Public Schools of Detroit," The Board of Education
of the City of Detroit. Detroit (unpublished compendium) 1938.
2. "Histories of the Public Schools of Detroit Since 1937 and Reports of the
War Effort," The Board of Education of the City of Detroit. Detroit:
(Unpublished compendium) 1948. (Vols, IV and V.)
3. "Histories of the Public Schools of Detroit," The Board of Education of the
City of Detroit. Detroit: (Unpublished compendium) 1967. (Vol. II.)

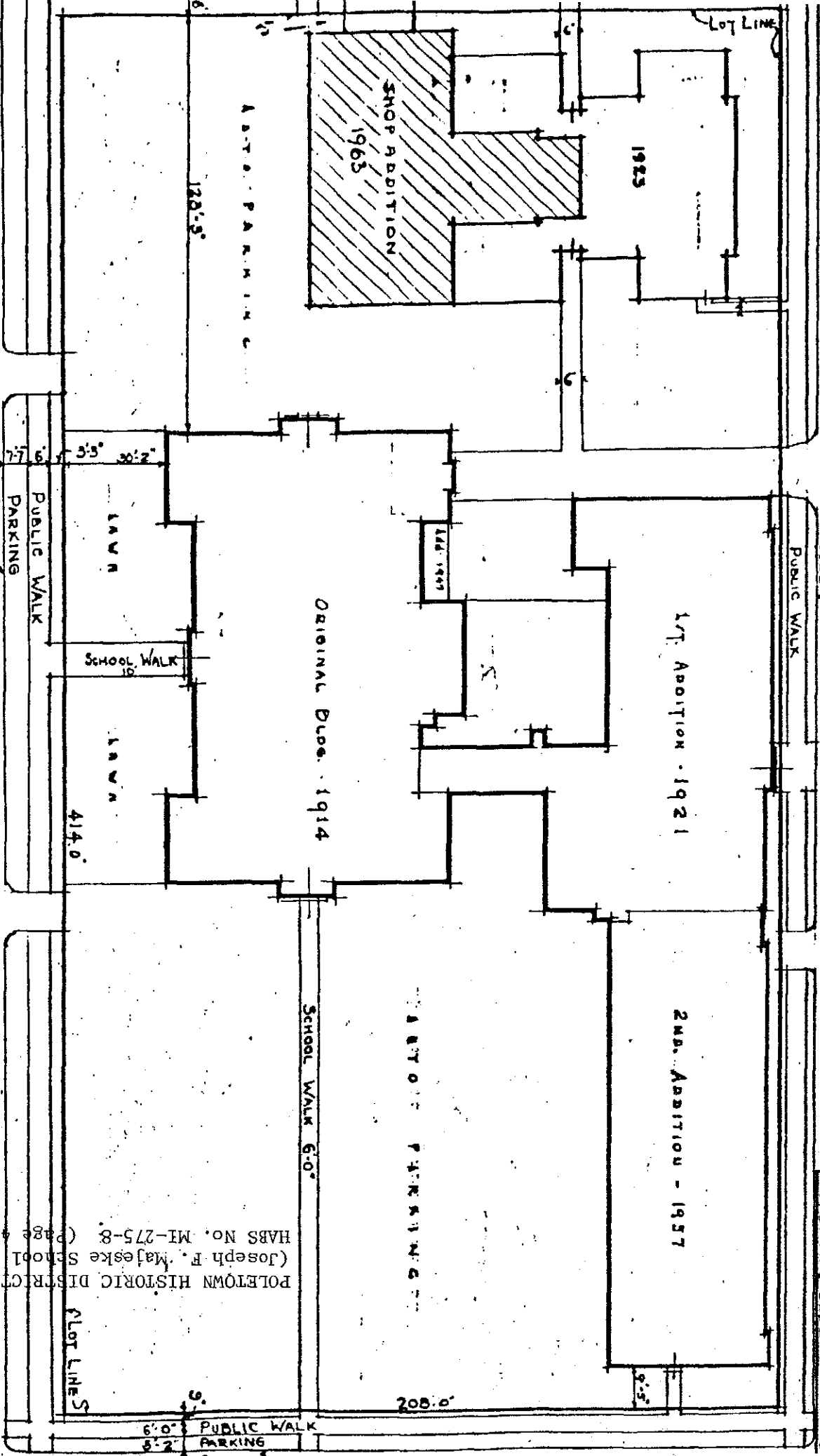
- III. 1. Floorplans, The Architectural Engineering Department of the Board of
Education, Detroit, Michigan. 1973.

IV. Interviews

1. Goldstein, Lou, Detroit Board of Education.
2. Lansing, John, Detroit Board of Education.

TROMBLY AVE. 60'0"

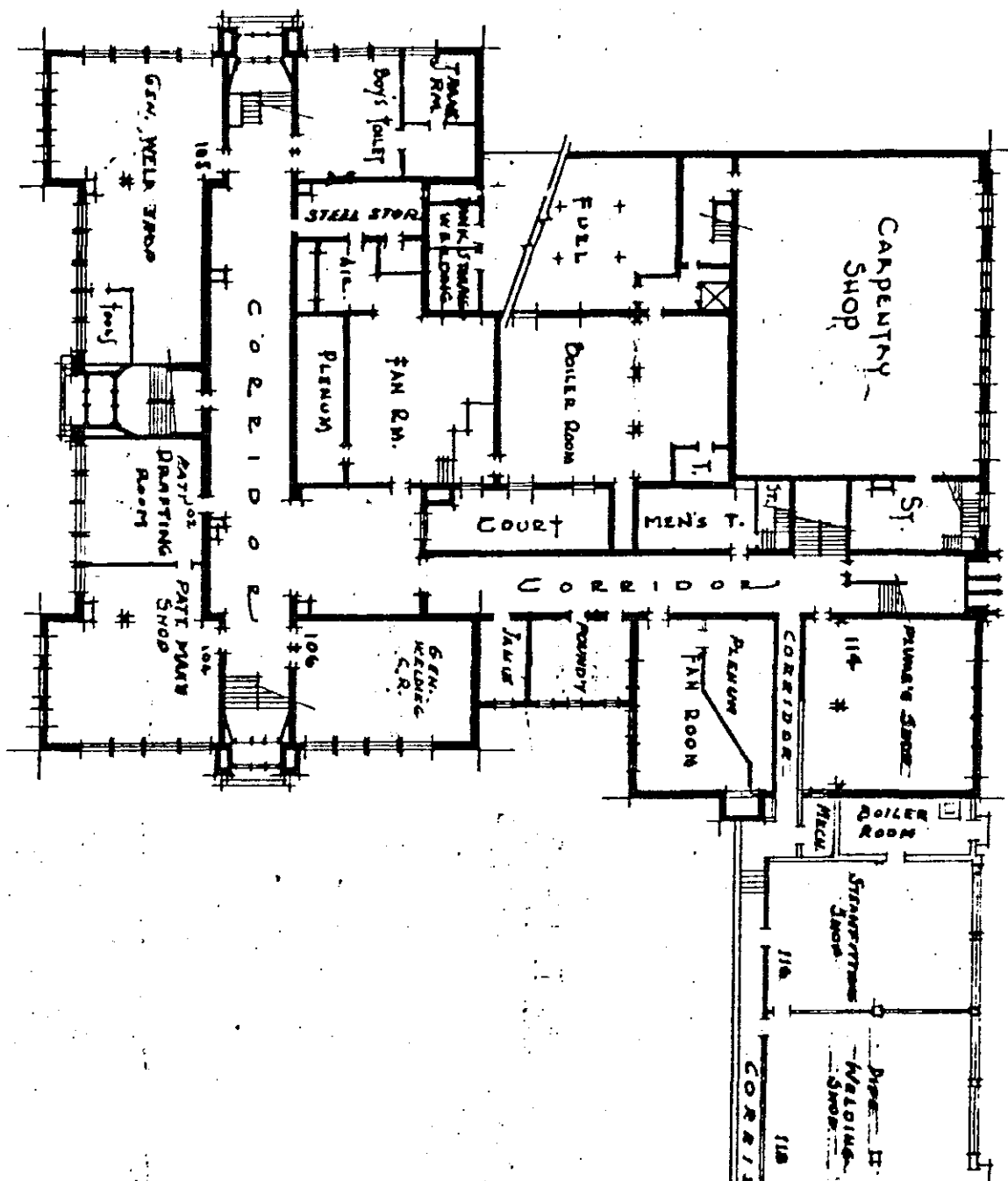
LYMAN ST. 50'0"



DEPT. OF ARCHITECTURAL			
BOARD OF EDUCATION			
DETROIT MI			
DRAWN	DATE	CHECKED	BY
J.F.	4-23-21		
ORIGINAL BLDG. - 1914 - 1			
1ST ADDITION 1921 - 1			
2ND ADDITION 1957 - 1			
OPERAIR. BLDG. - 1925 - 1			

POLETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
(Joseph F. Majeske School)
HABS No. MI-275-8 (Page 4)

PLOT LINES



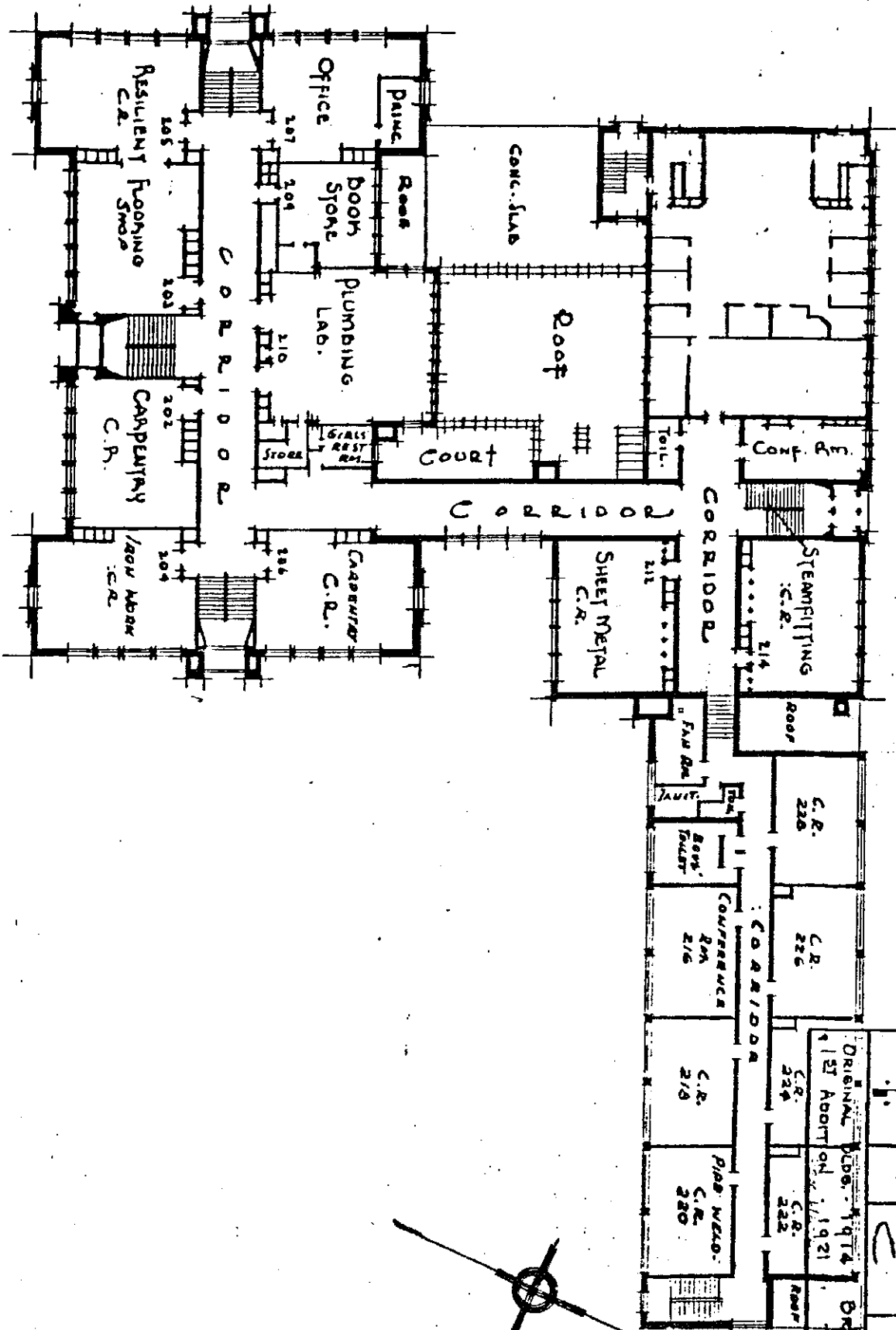
BASEMENT PLAN
Scale 3/4" = 1'-0"

DEPT. OF RECREATION AND YOUTH
BOARD OF EDUCATION
DETROIT MICH.

DRAWN	DATE	CHECKED	DATE	APPROVED	DATE

REVISED 9-4-47
REVISED 4-27-49
REVISED 4-15-73

JOSEPH F. MAJESKE SCHOOL
(Joseph F. Majeske School)
HABS No. 275-8 (Page 5)



First Floor Plan

Scale 1/2" = 1'-0"

2-200: 200-21 - 1000

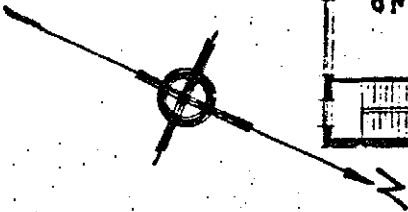
REVISIONS (Majeske Bldg) CHURCH

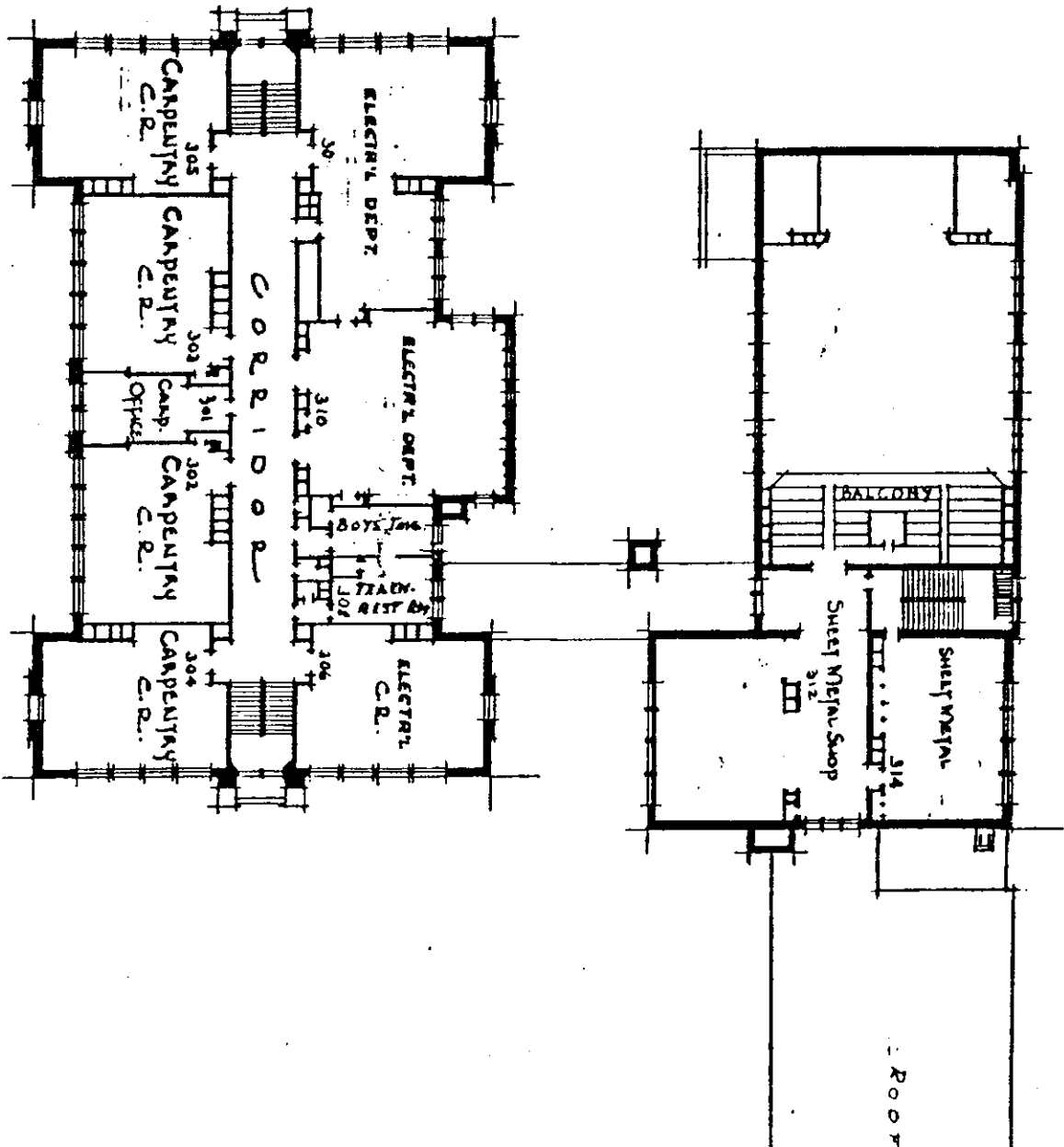
DEPT. OF ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
DETROIT MICH.

DRAWN	DATE	CHECKS	DATE	APPROVED	DATE
1					

Original Date: 1914
1st Addition: 1921
Brick Walls

REVISION
4-18-13





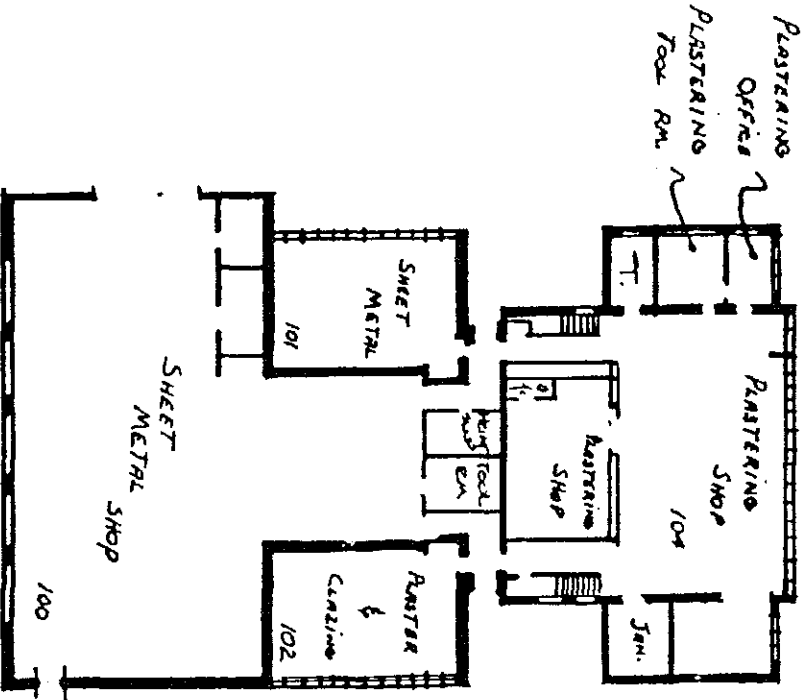
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
Scale 3/2" = 1'-0"

(MAJESKE - DG.)				
DEPT. OF ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING				
BOARD OF EDUCATION				
DETROIT MICH.				
DRAWN	DATE	CHECKED	DATE	APPROVED
J.		C		

REvised
9.15.73

POLETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
(Joseph F. Majeske School)
HABS No. MI-275-8. (Page 7)

M'AJESKE ADULT CH /
CEN TER



FIRST FLOOR PLAN			
Scale 1/32" = 1'-0"			
DEPT. of BUILDING RESEARCH			
BOARD of EDUCATION			
DETROIT, MICH.			
DRAWN	DATE	CHECKED	DATE
C.N.M.	3-7-25	S.L. DUBNO	3-14-25

Revised 6/24/60
" 9-15-73

1. Property Name

Majeske School

2. Location

Street Address: 2139 Trombly Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

3. Majeske School is located on the northwest corner at the intersection of Trombly Avenue and Dubois Avenue. It is situated north of the Ford Freeway (I-94) and south of Detroit's Central Industrial Park.

3. Classification

Building

4. Ownership

Detroit Board of Education

5. Representation in Existing Surveys

None

6. Description

The Majeske School exhibits a Neo-classical architectural style. It is a two-story brick building built in an L-shaped plan.

The facade is delineated by two string-courses outlined by the string-courses are the two stories which are represented by two rows of rectangular windows. Central to the facade is a rounded-arched doorway, framed by two pilasters which rise above the roofline. At the base of the building there is also a row of rectangular windows. The remainder of the building follows this format, emphasizing fenestration and a simplified Neo-classical motif.

7. Significance

The Majeske School is primarily significant for its lengthy contribution to education in the Poletown community. The school was named after Joseph F. Majeske, who was an inspector of Detroit's 9th Ward and through his involvement with St. Albertus

Church and the Polish Century Club became a prominent member of the Polish community. The naming of the building after a Poletown citizen is significant because it shows Detroit's recognition of the Polish community. The building was constructed in 1913 to be used as an apprenticeship training school and an elementary school. An addition to the school was made in 1922. In 1950 the elementary school was closed.

The school is also significant for its Neo-classical architectural design.